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U.S. Cold Storage Highlights

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on September 30, 1999 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, chicken, pork, and fruit. Total frozen pork stocks, at 433 million pounds, broke the previous record September high of 389 million pounds set in 1998. Likewise, September 1999 stocks of chicken, at 976 million pounds, also broke the previous record September high of 606 million pounds set in 1998. Fruit also set a new September record high. Cooler stocks of peanuts were also higher than a year earlier.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down

20 percent from the revised August 1999 data, but were 1 percent above September 1998. Frozen pork stocks were 18 percent below last month, but were up 11 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies decreased 46 percent from last month, but were double the September 1998 stocks. Revised August 1999 red meat supplies were influenced by products awaiting export.

Total frozen poultry supplies were up 11 percent from last month and were 21 percent above last year's level. Total stocks of chicken were up 15 percent from last month and were 61 percent above September 1998. Total pounds of turkey in freezers increased 4 percent from last month, but were 14 percent below last year.

Public cooler occupancy was at 48 percent of capacity, up 6 points from last year. Public freezer occupancy at 66 percent was 2 percentage points below last year.

Stocks in Cold Storage, United States

Commodity	Sep 30, 1998	Aug 31, 1999	Sep 30, 1999
1,000 Pounds			
Total Frozen			
Eggs	8,195	8,810	8,420
Chickens	605,698	846,337	976,336
Turkeys	699,485	580,306	600,808
Cherries, Tart			
RSP	157,631	156,754	143,747
Juice	5,697	4,846	4,158
Cherries, Sweet	16,440	16,439	15,632
Potatoes	1,266,844	1,169,812	1,234,350
Beef	323,063	377,866	291,946
Pork	388,851	528,847	433,485
Lamb & Mutton .	12,253	12,240	9,714
Total in Storage			
Apples, Fresh . .	3,456,543	102,523	2,828,827
Butter	34,077	95,164	74,055
Cheese, Natural	552,995	697,571	638,332
American . . .	417,489	510,849	471,447
Swiss	12,741	10,027	10,412
Other Natural .	122,765	176,695	156,473

Livestock Slaughter

UTAH: Commercial red meat production totaled 43.4 million pounds in September 1999, up 3 percent from September 1998 but down 6 percent from August 1999.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in September, up 3 percent from September's previous record high of 3.83 billion pounds produced in 1998.

Beef production, at 2.28 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year and just above the previous record high for September set in 1976. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.10 million head, up 4 percent from 1998. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,210 pounds.

Veal production totaled 20.0 million pounds, 7 percent below the previous record low for September set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 121 thousand head, down 11 percent from September 1998. The average live weight was 12 pounds above last year, at 281 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.62 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous record high for September set last year. Hog kill totaled 8.64 million head, 1 percent above 1998. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 255 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 19.0 million pounds, was up 2 percent from September 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 307 thousand head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 127 pounds, up 2 pounds from September a year ago.

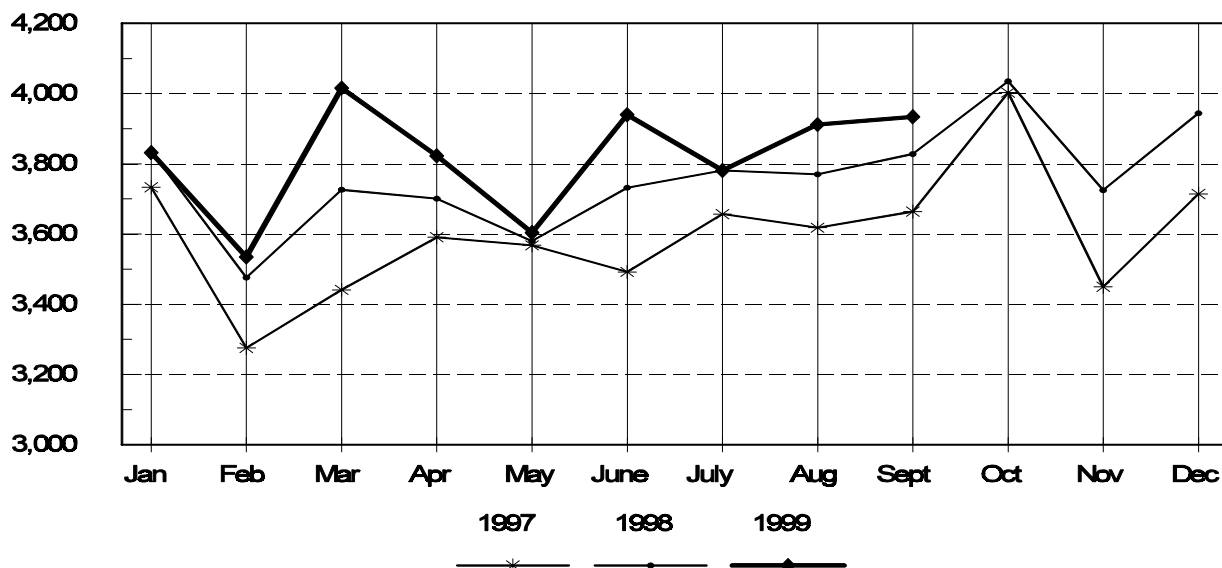
Commercial Livestock Slaughter, September 1998-99 ^{1/}

Item	Utah		United States	
	Sep 1998	Sep 1999	Sep 1998	Sep 1999
Million Pounds				
Red Meat	42.0	43.4	3,828.4	3,934.2
Number (Thousand Head)				
Cattle	54.2	55.9	2,991.4	3,101.4
Calves			135.3	120.5
Hogs	2.6	4.7	8,600.2	8,644.3
Sheep & Lamb . .	2.9	3.0	306.5	307.3
Average Live Weight (Pounds)				
Cattle	1,218	1,216	1,213	1,210
Calves			269	281
Hogs	187	170	253	255
Sheep & Lamb . .	122	119	125	127

^{1/} Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

Million Pounds



Agricultural Prices

UTAH: Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-October were up for all milk, the same as last month for alfalfa hay, and down for barley and other hay.

The Utah mid-October all milk price was \$15.50 per cwt, up 10 cents from the previous month but down \$1.20 from October 1998. Barley, at \$1.83 per bushel, was down one cent from the previous month's price but up 10 cents from the same month last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$74.00 per ton, the same as last month but \$4.00 lower than October 1998. Other hay, at \$35.00 per ton, was down \$3.00 from last month and \$20.00 lower than October 1998.

The lamb price for September 1999 was \$73.00 per cwt, down \$3.00 from August, but up \$5.00 from last year. The September 1999 sheep price at \$24.00, was \$2.00 more than August, and \$4.00 more than September of last year.

UNITED STATES: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in October was 92 based on 1990-92=100, down 5 points (5.2 percent) from the September index. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell affect the overall index. Lower seasonal marketings of milk, wheat, tobacco, and grapes more than offset the relatively higher marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton lint and cottonseed. These marketing changes decreased the index four points. Price decreases from September account for one point of the decline. Lower prices for broilers, corn, milk, and eggs more than offset price increases for cattle, tobacco, oranges, and cucumbers.

Compared with October 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 7 points (7.1 percent) lower. Price decreases from October 1998 for soybeans, broilers, milk, and corn more than offset price increases for cattle, calves, hogs, and oranges.

Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Utah			United States		
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
		Oct 1998	Sep 1999	Oct 1999 <u>1/</u>	Oct 1998	Sep 1999	Oct 1999 <u>1/</u>
Livestock & Products							
Lambs	Dol/Cwt	62.00	73.00	<u>2/</u>	67.60	75.30	<u>2/</u>
Sheep	Dol/Cwt	20.00	24.00	<u>2/</u>	26.10	29.20	<u>2/</u>
Milk, All <u>3/</u>	Dol/Cwt	16.70	15.40	15.50	17.70	15.80	15.50
(Fat test)	Percent	3.70	3.57	3.63	3.72	3.63	3.72
Fluid Grade <u>4/</u>	Dol/Cwt	16.70	15.40	<u>2/</u>	17.80	15.80	15.60
(Fat test)	Percent	3.69	3.56	<u>2/</u>	3.71	3.63	3.72
Mfg Grade	Dol/Cwt	16.50	15.00	<u>2/</u>	16.80	15.20	13.60
(Fat test)	Percent	3.81	3.64	<u>2/</u>	3.89	3.74	3.88
Crops							
Barley	Dol/Bu	1.73	1.84	1.83	1.91	2.03	2.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled <u>5/</u>	Dol/Ton	78.00	74.00	74.00	86.90	77.30	76.00
Other Hay, Baled <u>5/</u>	Dol/Ton	55.00	38.00	35.00	70.40	63.70	64.70

^{1/} Prices refer to sales occurring about the 15th of the month, except for milk. Prices for milk are an estimate for the full month. ^{2/} October data will be published next month. ^{3/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. ^{4/} Includes milk diverted to manufacturing. ^{5/} Mid-month prices.

U.S. Egg Production

U.S. egg production totaled 6.85 billion during September 1999, up 6 percent from the 6.48 billion produced in 1998. Production included 5.79 billion table eggs and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 999 million were broiler-type and 61.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 1999 averaged 322 million, up 4 percent from the total average number of layers during September 1998. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,126 eggs, up 2 percent from 2,082 eggs in September 1998.

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 1999 totaled 323 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 323 million layers consisted of 265 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 55.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.72 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 1999 averaged 70.2 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from the 69.3 a year ago.

Eggs & Layers: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, United States, September, 1998-99

Item	1998 <u>1/</u>	1999 <u>2/</u>	1999 as % of 1998
<i>Layers during September (Thousand)</i>			
All Layers	311,278	322,245	104
Table Egg Type	254,597	263,973	104
Hatching Egg Type	56,681	58,272	103
<i>Eggs per 100 Layers during September (Number)</i>			
All Layers	2,082	2,126	102
Table Egg Type	2,152	2,193	102
Hatching Egg Type	1,764	1,822	103
<i>Eggs produced during September (Miillion)</i>			
All Layers	6,480	6,850	106
Table Egg Type	5,480	5,788	106
Hatching Egg Type	1,000	1,062	106

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary